#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

GREGORIO TREVINO, Special	)	
Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO	)	
TREVINO, JR., deceased,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	Case No. 08-cv-1409
v.	)	
	)	Judge Dow
U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, INC.,	)	•
U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC., and	)	
ROGER D. GEARY,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

#### **NOTICE OF FILING**

TO: See attached service list

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 25, 2008, Defendants U-Haul International, Inc. and U-Haul Co. of Illinois, Inc. filed the exhibits unintentionally omitted from their Motion for Reassignment filed on the same date. A copy of the exhibits are attached hereto and served upon you herewith.

Dated: April 25, 2008 Respectfully submitted,

U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC. U-HAUL CO. OF ILLINOIS, INC.

s/ Dmitry Shifrin
George Jackson III, #6189680
Dmitry Shifrin, #6279415
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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 25th day of April, 2008, a copy of the foregoing Notice of Filing was served via the Court's CM/ECF system to the following counsel:

Donald R. McGarrah SALVI, SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD P.C. 181 W. Madison St., Suite 3800 Chicago, IL 60602

s/ Dmitry Shifrin
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STATE OF ILLINOIS )  SS COUNTY OF COOK )		DOROF CO
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COUNTY DEPARTME		( ) · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased,	) ) )	2
Plaintiff,	)	2008L000841 CALENDAR/ROOM E
vs.	) NO. )	TIME 00:00 PI Motor Vehicle
U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, INC., U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC. and ROGER D. GEARY,	) ) )	
Defendants.	)	

#### **COMPLAINT AT LAW**

#### **COUNT I**

Plaintiff, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, and ORALIA TREVINO, (hereinafter "PLAINTIFFS"), by and through their attorneys, SALVI SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD P.C., and complaining of Defendants, U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC. (hereinafter "U-HAUL DEFENDANTS"), ROGER D. GEARY, and each of them, state:

- 1. On and before April 21, 2006, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR. was a citizen of the State of Texas.
- 2. On and before April 21, 2006, and at all times material, Defendant, U-HAUL OF ILLINOIS, was an Illinois Corporation with its principal place of business in Illinois.

- 3. On and before April 21, 2006, and at all times material, Defendant, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC., was a Nevada Corporation with its principal place of business in Arizona.
- 4. On and before April 21, 2006, and at all times material, Defendant, ROGER D. GEARY, was an individual residing in Tennessee.
- 5. JANET M. DEUTSCH, Special Administrator of the Estate of William Geary, deceased, has been appointed Special Administrator of the Estate of William Geary for purposes of naming a proper party defendant for this litigation. Attached hereto as Exhibit "B" is a copy of the order entered by the Circuit Court of Cook County appointing Janet Deutsch as Special Administrator of the Estate of William Geary, deceased.
- 6. On and before April 21, 2006, and at all times material, Defendant, U-HAUL OF ILLINOIS, was engaged in the business of renting out, maintaining, storing, distributing, and selling certain types of moving vehicles, including the box type moving vehicle involved in this accident.
- 7. On and before April 21, 2006, and at all times material, Defendant, U-HAUL OF ILLINOIS, conducted business in Cook County, Illinois, which included marketing, servicing, and renting out its products, including the box type moving van involved in this accident, in Cook County, Illinois.
- 8. On information and belief, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL owned the 2006 General Motors C5C042 box type moving van (VIN 1GDG5C1E35F903934) (hereinafter "the moving van") and had responsibility for assuring the van was properly maintained and serviced.

- 9. Prior to April 21, 2006, Defendant, U-HAUL OF ILLINOIS, was required to maintain, service and rent out the moving van.
- 10. Prior to April 21, 2006, the Defendant, William J. Geary, deceased, resided in Chicago, Illinois.
- 11. On April 21, 2006, William J. Geary was driving the moving van northbound on Interstate Highway 65 in Kentucky. As Mr. Geary was proceeding on the roadway, he lost control of the moving fan and crossed the median into oncoming traffic.
- 12. On April 21, 2006, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR. was driving southbound on Interstate 65 in Kentucky in his tractor-trailer combination.
- 13. On April 21, 2006, without warning, the moving van driven by William Geary traveling northbound on Interstate 65 crossed the median and slid across the interstate in front of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR.'s vehicle and caused a collision between their two vehicles.
- 14. On April 21, 2006, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR. and William J. Geary died as a result of the subject collision and resulting fire on Interstate Highway 65 in Kentucky.
- 15. Prior to April 21, 2006, and at all times material, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL INC. and U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS were engaged in a joint enterprise, joint venture, or some mutually beneficial working arrangement for a common business purpose.
- 16. On April 21, 2006, at the time of the accident, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL INC. and U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS were jointly responsible for marketing, maintaining, servicing and renting out the moving van that was involved in the subject accident..

- 17. On and before April 21, 2006, and at all times material, Defendants, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL INC., U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, and William J. Geary, and each of them, were negligent in one or more of the following aspects:
  - (a) Failed to maintain the U-HAUL moving van in a good, working condition;
  - (b) Failed to properly maintain the van's braking system and brakes;
- (c) Failed to enforce and/or follow internal guidelines for proper maintenance of the van and the van's braking system;
- (d) Failure to ensure that the van was in proper working condition prior to embarking on the trip that resulted in the incident;
  - (e) Failure to maintain a proper lookout;
  - (d) Operated the van at speeds that were too fast for the presenting conditions;
  - (f) Failed to control the van after a mechanical failure;
  - (e) Rented a vehicle to the public that was improperly maintained.
- 18. As a proximate result of one or more of the aforesaid negligent acts or omissions of the Defendants, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR. sustained injuries which resulted in his death.
- 19. At the time of his death, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, left surviving him his father, GREGORIO TREVINO, and his mother, ORALIA TREVINO, who have been deprived of his love, affection and society.
- 20. GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, brings this action pursuant to 740 ILCS 180/1, 180/2, and 180/2.1, commonly referred to as the Wrongful Death Act (Attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is a copy of

an Order entered in the Circuit Court of Cook County appointing GREGORIO TREVINO as the Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased).

WHEREFORE, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, demands judgment against the Defendants, U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC., and ROGER D. GEARY, and each of them, in a sum of money in excess of \$50,000.00, together with the costs of this action.

#### COUNT II (Negligence/Survival Action)

Plaintiff, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, and ORALIA TREVINO, (hereinafter "TREVINO"), by and through their attorneys, SALVI, SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD P.C., and complaining of Defendants, U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC. (hereinafter "U-HAUL DEFENDANTS"), ROGER D. GEARY, and each of them, state:

- 1-18. Plaintiff, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, restates, realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 17, including all subparagraphs, of Count I, as and for paragraphs 1 through 17 of Count II.
- As a proximate result of one or more negligent acts of the aforementioned 19. Defendants, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR. sustained conscious pain and suffering and disability prior to his death, and had he survived, he would have been entitled to bring an action for such injuries.

20. Plaintiff, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, brings this action pursuant to 755 ILCS 5/27-6, commonly referred to as the "Survival Act."

WHEREFORE, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, demands judgment against the Defendants, U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC., and ROGER D. GEARY, and each of them, in a sum of money in excess of \$50,000.00, together with the costs of this action.

### COUNT III (Negligence/Family Expense Act)

Plaintiff, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, and ORALIA TREVINO, (hereinafter "TREVINO"), by and through their attorneys, SALVI, SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD P.C., and complaining of Defendants, U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC. (hereinafter "U-HAUL DEFENDANTS"), and ROGER D. GEARY, and each of them, state:

- 1-18. Plaintiff, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, restates, realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 17, including all subparagraphs, of Count I, as and for paragraphs 1 through 17 of Count III.
- 19. That as a result of the death of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, certain medical, funeral and burial expenses were incurred for which the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, is liable.

20. Plaintiff, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, brings this action pursuant to 750 ILCS 65/15, commonly referred to as the "Family Expense Act" (attached hereto as Exhibit "A" as evidence of his right to bring this action is a copy of the Order issued by the Circuit Court of Cook County).

WHEREFORE, GREGORIO TREVINO, Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, demands judgment against the Defendants, U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC., and ROGER D. GEARY, and each of them, in a sum of money in excess of \$50,000.00, together with the costs of this action.

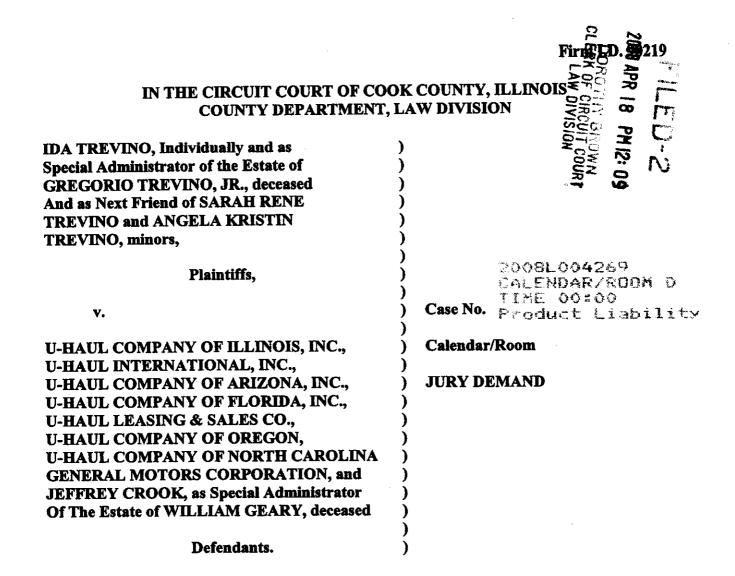
#### PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL BY JURY

SALVI, SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD P.C.

By:

Donald R. McGarrah, Attorney for Plaintiff

DONALD R. MCGARRAH - ARDC #3123480 SALVI, SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD P.C. - #34560 181 W. Madison Street, Suite 3800 Chicago, IL 60602 312/372-1227



#### **COMPLAINT AT LAW AND JURY DEMAND**

COMES NOW, IDA TREVINO, Individually and as Special Administrator of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, and as Next Friend of SARAH RENE TREVINO AND ANGELA KRISTIN TREVINO, minors, hereinafter referred to individually or jointly as "Plaintiffs," complaining of Defendants U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, INC., U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC., U-HAUL COMPANY OF ARIZONA, INC., U-HAUL COMPANY OF FLORIDA, INC., U-HAUL LEASING & SALES CO., U-HAUL COMPANY OF OREGON, U-HAUL COMPANY OF NORTH CAROLINA, GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION, and JEFFERY CROOK, as Special Administrator of the Estate of WILLIAM

GEARY, deceased, hereinafter referred to collectively as "Defendants," and would respectfully show the court and jury as follows:

#### **PARTIES**

- 1. Plaintiff, IDA TREVINO, is the surviving spouse of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, and is a resident of Uvalde County, Texas. Plaintiff IDA TREVINO is the natural parent and next friend of minors SARAH RENE TREVINO and ANGELA KRISTIN TREVINO, daughters of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased. Plaintiffs and GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, were residents of Zavala County, Texas at the time that this cause of action accrued.
- Plaintiff, IDA TREVINO, was granted Letters Testamentary of the Estate of Gregorio Trevino Jr., Deceased as the "qualified Independent Executrix" of that estate on April 17, 2007. See Ex. A attached hereto, Letters Testamentary issued by the Clerk of Zavala County, Texas dated April 17, 2007
- 3. Plaintiff, IDA TREVINO, has also been appointed Representative of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, for purposes of prosecuting this cause of action in Cook County Illinois. See Ex. B attached hereto, Order of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Law Division.
- 4. JEFFREY CROOK has been appointed Special Administrator of the Estate of William Geary for purposes of naming a proper party defendant for this litigation. See Ex. C attached hereto, Order of Circuit Court of Cook County, Law Division.
- 5. Defendant, U-HAUL COMPANY OF ILLINOIS, INC. ("UHCI") is a corporation registered in the State of Illinois with its principal place of business in Illinois. Defendant

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- UHCI may be served through its agent, CT Corporation System, 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814, Chicago, Illinois, 60604. UHCI is a citizen of Illinois for diversity purposes.
- 6. Defendant, U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC. ("UHI") is a corporation registered in the State of Arizona and is or was, at all times pertinent hereto, doing business within the State of Illinois. Defendant UHI may be served by service on its registered agent, CT Corporation System, 2394 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix, Arizona, 85016.
- 7. Defendant, U-HAUL COMPANY OF ARIZONA ("UHCA") is a corporation registered in the State of Arizona and is or was, at all times pertinent hereto, doing business within the State of Illinois. Defendant UHCA may be served by service on its registered agent, CT Corporation System, 2394 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix, Arizona, 85016.
- 8. Defendant, U-HAUL COMPANY OF FLORIDA ("UHCF") is a corporation registered in the State of Florida and is or was, at all times pertinent hereto, doing business within the State of Illinois. Defendant UHCF may be served by service on its registered agent, CT Corporation System, 1200 S. Pine Island Road, Plantation, Florida 33324.
- 9. Defendant U-HAUL LEASING & SALES CO. ("UHLSC") is a Nevada corporation and is or was, at all times pertinent hereto, doing business within the State of Illinois. Defendant UHLSC may be served by service on its registered agent, Corporation Trust Company of Nevada, 6100 Neil Road, Suite 500, Reno, Nevada, 89511.
- 10. Defendant U-Haul Company of Oregon ("UHCO") is a corporation registered in the State of Oregon and is or was, at all times pertinent hereto, doing business within the State of Illinois. Defendant UHCO may be served by service on its registered agent, CT Corporation Systems, 388 State Street, Suite 420, Salem, Oregon 97301 or at its principal place of business at 8816 SE Foster Road., Portland, Oregon 97266.

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- 11. Defendant U-Haul Company of North Carolina, Inc. ("UHCNC") is a corporation registered in the State of North Carolina and is or was at all times pertinent hereto doing business within the State of Illinois. Defendant UHCNC may be served by service on its registered agent, CT Corporation Systems, 225 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603, or on its President, Jeff Will at 6216 Albemarle Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28212.
- 12. Defendant GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION ("GM") is a Delaware corporation, which is and/or was, at all times pertinent hereto, doing business within the State of Illinois. Defendant GM may be served by service on its registered agent, CT Corporation System, 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814, Chicago, Illinois 60604.
- 13. Hereinafter the "GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS" refers to UHCI, UHI, UHCA, UHCF, UHLSC, UHCO, UHCNC, and GM.
- Defendant JEFFREY CROOK is named in his capacity as Special Administrator of the Estate of WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, for purposes of naming a proper party defendant to this litigation. At the time of the incident from which this claim arises, and at the time of his death, WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, was an individual residing in Chicago, Illinois. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c) (2), WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, is a citizen of Illinois for diversity purposes.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

15. The Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois has jurisdiction over this case under 735 ILCS 5/2-209(b)(3) in that Defendant UHCI is a corporation organized under the laws of Illinois, under 735 ILCS 5/2-209(b)(4) in that Defendants UHI, UHCA, UHCF, UHLSC, UHCO, UHCNC, and GM conduct ongoing business operations in Illinois, and under 735

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- ILCS 5/2-209(b)(4) in that WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, was a natural person domiciled in Illinois when this cause of action arose and at the time of his death.
- 16. Venue is proper in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois under 735 ILCS 5/2-101 in that Cook County, Illinois was the county of residence of WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, at the time of his death. Venue is also proper under 735 ILCS 5/2-102(a) in that Cook County, Illinois, is the county of residence of Defendants UHCI and GM.

#### FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- This action arises from the death of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, on April 21, 2006. Plaintiff IDA TREVINO is the surviving wife of Decedent GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, and was at all relevant times the lawful wife of Decedent. SARAH RENE TREVINO and ANGELA KRISTIN TREVINO are the daughters of GREGORIO TREVINO JR., deceased. Plaintiff IDA TREVINO brings this suit individually, on behalf of the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, and on behalf of the next of kin of the Decedent, who died intestate.
- On April 21, 2006, WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, was driving a 2005 U-Haul moving van manufactured by the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, Model No. C5C042, VIN No. 1GDG5C1E35F903934 (the "U-Haul"), northbound at the 12.5 mile post of Highway I-65 when the subject U-Haul began skidding, then crossed over both northbound lanes. The subject U-Haul entered the median in a westbound slide. The subject U-Haul then exited the median and entered the southbound lanes traveling in a westbound direction and struck an RBX tractor-trailer being driven by Corey Hill. Mr. Hill was able to continue southbound and pull to the shoulder. After glancing off the side of Mr. Hill's tractor-trailer, the subject U-Haul continued northbound in the southbound lanes. The

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subject U-Haul then violently struck head-on the 2000 Great Dane tractor-trailer vehicle driven by GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased. Immediately following impact, the subject U-Haul and the Great Dane tractor-trailer burst into flames. The RBX tractor-trailer also ignited. GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, and his passenger, Ms. Santiago, were unable to escape the flames and all three of them perished in the fire. Decedent GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered excruciating pain and suffering before he died on April 21, 2006.

- 19. At the time of his death, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was 32 years old and in good health.
- 20. As a direct and proximate result of the defective products and of the acts of omission and commission of the Defendants, their agents, servants, representatives and/or employees, acting within the course and scope of their employment and as described herein above, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered excruciating pain and mental anguish and other resulting damages prior to his death, including reasonable and necessary medical and health care expenses incurred prior to his death.
- 21. By reason of said Defendants' conduct and the resulting death of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, the Estate of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, incurred reasonable and necessary expenses for the funeral service and burial, all to the damage of the Estate, which is entitled to recover for these injuries and damages in an amount in excess of this Court's minimum jurisdictional limits.
- 22. Because of the untimely death of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, IDA TREVINO, individually and as next friend of SARAH RENE TREVINO and ANGELA KRISTIN TREVINO, minor children of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, as well

as the parents of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, have suffered mental anguish, grief, sorrow, mental suffering, and bereavement, loss of companionship, pecuniary contributions and support. Plaintiffs have suffered these and other injuries and damages as a result of the death of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, and will continue to suffer such injuries, losses, and damages for the rest of their lives.

#### COUNT I: STRICT LIABILITY (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS) WRONGFUL DEATH

- At all relevant times, the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS were in the business of selling, manufacturing, distributing, equipping, designing, leasing, maintaining, and/or marketing moving vans, including the subject U-Haul.
- 2. The subject U-Haul as sold, manufactured, distributed, equipped, designed, leased, maintained, and/or marketed by the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS was in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition by reason of its defective design and/or manufacture, including, but not limited to, its defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings, all while in the possession, custody, or control of each of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS.
- 3. The subject U-Haul was in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition when it left the control of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS.
- 4. At the time the subject U-Haul was placed into the stream of commerce by the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, up to the time of the accident, the subject U-Haul was defective and unreasonably dangerous to persons who could reasonably be expected to use same.

- 5. The death of GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., and the damages suffered by Plaintiffs, were the direct and proximate result of the subject U-Haul's defective and unreasonably dangerous condition.
- 6. Because the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS are in the business of selling, manufacturing, distributing, equipping, designing, leasing, maintaining, and/or marketing the subject U-Haul and similar products, because the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS reaped the profits from the subject U-Haul and similar products, and because the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS placed the subject U-Haul and similar products into the stream of commerce in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition throughout the United States, as well as the State of Illinois, the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS are liable to Plaintiffs for their injuries and damages under the theory of strict products liability.
- 7. As a direct and proximate result of the defective and unreasonably dangerous condition of the subject U-Haul, which was sold, manufactured, distributed, equipped, designed, leased, maintained, and/or marketed by the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS and was in an defective and unreasonably dangerous condition when it left the control of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.
- 8. GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, has left as his survivors his wife, Plaintiff IDA TREVINO, and his children, Plaintiffs SARAH RENE TREVINO and ANGELA KRISTIN TREVINO, who have suffered personal and pecuniary loss as the result of the death of their husband and father, and have suffered from the loss of his love, affection, society, and companionship that they enjoyed prior to his death and have endured grief, sorrow, and mental suffering.

9. This action arises under the Illinois Wrongful Death Act, 740 ILCS 180/0.01 et seq. WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

### COUNT II: STRICT LIABILITY (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS) SURVIVAL ACT

- 1-7. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1-7 of Count I as paragraphs 1-7 of Count II as though fully set forth herein.
- 8. As a direct and proximate result of the defective and unreasonably dangerous condition of the subject U-Haul, including, but not limited to, its defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings, all while in the possession, custody, or control of each of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS which was sold, manufactured, distributed, equipped, designed, leased, maintained, and/or marketed by the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS and was in an unreasonably dangerous and defective condition when it left the control of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was injured and suffered personal and pecuniary damages, including conscious pain and suffering prior to his death.
- 9. Had GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, survived, he would have been entitled to bring an action for such damages. Pursuant to 755 ILCS 5/27-6, the action therefore survives him and accrues to his Estate.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

### <u>COUNT III:</u> STRICT LIABILITY (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS)

#### **FAMILY EXPENSE ACT**

- 1-7. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1-7 of Count I as paragraphs 1-7 of Count III as though fully set forth herein.
- 8. As a direct and proximate result of the defective and unreasonably dangerous condition of the subject U-Haul, including, but not limited to, its defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings, all while in the possession, custody, or control of each of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS which was sold, manufactured, distributed, equipped, designed, leased, maintained, and/or marketed by the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS and was in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition when it left the control of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.
- 9. Plaintiff IDA TREVINO therefore has been forced to expend great sums of money in funeral, burial, and medical expenses as a result of the death of her husband, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

# COUNT IV: NEGLIGENCE (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS) WRONGFUL DEATH

 The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS carelessly and negligently sold, manufactured, distributed, equipped, designed, leased, maintained, and/or marketed the subject U-Haul, including, but not limited to, with regard to its defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel

- delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings all while in the possession, custody, or control of each of the GM/U-Haul Defendants.
- The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS had a non-delegable duty of care to sell, manufacture, distribute, equip, design, lease, maintain, and/or market the subject U-Haul such that it was reasonably safe for its intended and reasonably foreseeable uses and for the foreseeable ancillary consequences of its normal use. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS owed such duty to Plaintiffs' decedent and to the general motoring public.
- 3. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known, that because of their careless and negligent sale, manufacture, distribution, equipping, designing, leasing, maintaining, and/or marketing of the subject U-Haul, it was not reasonably safe for its intended and reasonably foreseeable uses and for the foreseeable ancillary consequences of its normal use. Such foreseeable ancillary consequences include collisions.
- 4. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known, of the means of selling, manufacturing, distributing, equipping, designing, leasing, maintaining, and/or marketing the subject U-Haul such that it would not be defective and unreasonably dangerous and such that the type of incident and resulting injuries as described herein would be prevented.
- 5. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known, of the means of selling, manufacturing, distributing, equipping, designing, leasing, maintaining, and/or marketing the subject U-Haul and its components, including, but not limited to, its fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system,

- its steering system, and wheel bearings, such that they would not be defective and unreasonably dangerous and such that the type of incident and resulting injuries as described herein would be prevented.
- 6. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS failed to adequately sell, manufacture, distribute, equip, design, lease, maintain, and/or market the subject U-Haul and its components, including, but not limited to, its fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings to William Geary, deceased.
- 7. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS additionally were careless and negligent in failing to provide adequate or proper warnings or instructions to users of the subject U-Haul, and failed to recall or timely recall the subject U-Haul or make appropriate post-marketing efforts to prevent incidents such as the one described herein.
- 8. The aforesaid careless and negligent acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS imposed an unreasonable risk of harm on Plaintiffs' decedent and the general motoring public.
- 9. The aforesaid careless and negligent acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS also represented a deviation from the industry standard of care.
- 10. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the aforesaid careless and negligent acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.
- 11. GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, has left as his survivors his wife, Plaintiff IDA

  TREVINO, and his daughters, Plaintiffs SARAH RENE TREVINO and ANGELA

  KRISTEN TREVINO, who have suffered personal and pecuniary loss as a result of the

- death of their husband and father, and have suffered from the loss of his love, affection, society, and companionship that they enjoyed prior to his death.
- 12. This action arises under the Illinois Wrongful Death Act, 740 ILCS 180/0.01 et seq. WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

# COUNT V: NEGLIGENCE (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS) SURVIVAL ACT

- 1 10. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1-10 of Count IV as paragraphs 1-10 of Count V as though fully set forth herein.
- 11. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the careless and negligent acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, including, but not limited to, with regard to the U-Haul's defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was injured and suffered personal and pecuniary damages, including conscious pain and suffering prior to his death.
- Had GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, survived, he would have been entitled to bring an action for such damages. Pursuant to 755 ILCS 5/27-6, the action therefore survives him and accrues to his Estate.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

#### COUNT VI: NEGLIGENCE (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS) FAMILY EXPENSE ACT

- 1-10. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1-10 of Count IV as paragraphs 1-10 of Count VI as though fully set forth herein.
- 11. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the careless and negligent acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, including, but not limited to, with regard to the U-Haul's defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings, all while in the possession, custody, or control of each of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.
- 12. Plaintiff IDA TREVINO therefore has been forced to expend great sums of money in funeral, burial, and medical expenses as a result of the death of her husband, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased.

# COUNT VII: WILLFUL AND WANTON (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS) WRONGFUL DEATH

- The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS sold, manufactured, distributed, equipped, designed, leased, maintained, and/or marketed the subject U-Haul in a manner showing utter indifference and conscious disregard for the welfare of the Plaintiffs and the general motoring public.
- 2. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS knew of, or acted with utter indifference and conscious disregard for, the fact that the subject U-Haul was defective and unreasonably dangerous for

- its intended and reasonably foreseeable uses and for the foreseeable ancillary consequences of its normal use. Such foreseeable ancillary consequences include collisions.
- 3. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS knew of, or acted with utter indifference and conscious disregard for, the means of selling, manufacturing, distributing, equipping, designing, leasing, maintaining, and/or marketing the subject U-Haul such that it would not be defective and unreasonably dangerous and such that the type of incident and resulting injuries as described herein would be prevented.
- 4. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS knew of, or acted with utter indifference and conscious disregard for, the means of selling, manufacturing, distributing, equipping, designing, leasing, maintaining, and/or marketing the subject U-Haul and its components, including, but not limited to, its defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings, resulting in GREGORIO TREVIINO, JR., deceased, suffering from injuries which resulted in his death.
- 5. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS acted with utter indifference and conscious disregard for the unreasonable risk of harm posed to Plaintiffs' decedent and the general motoring public by the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS' failure to adequately sell, manufacture, distribute, equip, design, lease, maintain, and/or market the subject U-Haul and its components, including but not limited to its fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings.
- 6. The GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS additionally acted with utter indifference and conscious disregard for the unreasonable risk of harm posed to Plaintiffs' decedent and the general motoring public by the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS' failure to provide adequate or proper warnings or instructions to users of the subject U-Haul, and by their failure to recall or timely

- recall the subject U-Haul or make appropriate post-marketing efforts to prevent incidents such as the one described herein.
- 7. The aforesaid willful and wanton acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS imposed an unreasonable risk of harm on Plaintiffs and the general motoring public.
- 8. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the aforesaid willful and wanton acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.
- 9. GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, has left as his survivors his wife, Plaintiff IDA TREVINO, and his daughters, Plaintiffs SARAH RENE TREVINO and ANGELA KRISTEN TREVINO, who have suffered personal and pecuniary loss as a result of the death of their husband and father, and have suffered from the loss of the love, affection, society, and companionship that they enjoyed prior to his death and have endured grief, sorrow, and mental suffering.
- 10. This action arises under the Illinois Wrongful Death Act, 740 ILCS 180/0.01 et seq.

### COUNT VIII: WILLFUL AND WANTON (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS) SURVIVAL ACT

- 1 8. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1-8 of Count VII as paragraphs 1-8 of Count
   VIII as though fully set forth herein.
- 9. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the careless and negligent acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, including, but, not limited to, with regard to the U-Haul's defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings,

- GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was injured and suffered personal and pecuniary damages, including conscious pain and suffering prior to his death.
- 10. Had GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, survived, he would have been entitled to bring an action for such damages. Pursuant to 755 ILCS 5/27-6, the action therefore survives him and accrues to his Estate.

## COUNT IX: WILLFUL AND WANTON (GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS) FAMILY EXPENSE ACT

- 1-8. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1-8 of Count VII as paragraphs 1-8 of CountIX as though fully set forth herein.
- 9. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the careless and negligent acts or omissions on the part of the GM/U-HAUL DEFENDANTS, including, but, not limited to, with regard to the U-Haul's defective and inadequate fuel tank and fuel delivery system, its breaks, its suspension system, its steering system, and wheel bearings, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was injured and suffered personal and pecuniary damages, including conscious pain and suffering prior to his death.
- 10. Plaintiff IDA TREVINO therefore has been forced to expend great sums of money in funeral, burial, and medical expenses as a result of the death of her husband, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

#### COUNT X: NEGLIGENCE (GEARY)

#### WRONGFUL DEATH ACT

- At all times relevant hereto, Defendant WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, had a duty to use ordinary care and caution in the operation of the subject U-Haul so as not to injure other persons traveling on the highway.
- 2. At the aforesaid time and place, Defendant WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, violated such duty and was careless and negligent in one or more of the following ways:
  - a. Negligently operated, managed, maintained, and controlled the subject U-Haul;
  - b. Operated the subject U-Haul without keeping a safe and proper lookout;
  - c. Proceeded at a speed that was greater than reasonable and proper with regard to traffic conditions and the use of the highway, or which endangered the safety of persons or property;
  - failed to exercise due care to avoid colliding with the RBX tractortrailer which Corey Hill was driving;
  - e. Failed to exercise due care to avoid colliding with the Great Dane tractor-trailer which GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was driving; and
  - f. Was otherwise careless and negligent.
- 3. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the aforesaid careless and negligent acts on the part of Defendant WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.
- 4. GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, has left as his survivors his wife, Plaintiff IDA TREVINO, and his children, Plaintiffs SARAH RENE TREVINO and ANGELA KRISTIN TREVINO, who have suffered personal and pecuniary loss as the result of the death of their husband and father, and have suffered from the loss of the love, affection, society, and companionship that they enjoyed prior to his death and have endured grief, sorrow, and mental suffering.

5. This action arises under the Illinois Wrongful Death Act, 740 ILCS 180/0.01 et seq.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

### COUNT XI: NEGLIGENCE (GEARY) SURVIVAL ACT

- 1 -3. The Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege paragraphs 1-3 of Count X as paragraphs 1-3 of CountXI as though fully set forth herein.
- 4. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the careless and negligent acts on the part of WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was injured and suffered personal and pecuniary damages, including conscious pain and suffering prior to his death.
- 7. Had GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, survived, he would have been entitled to bring an action for such damages. Pursuant to 755 ILCS 5/27-6, the action therefore survives him and accrues to his Estate.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

### COUNT XII: NEGLIGENCE (GEARY) FAMILY EXPENSE ACT

- 1 -3. The Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege paragraphs 1-3 of Count X as paragraphs 1-3 of CountXI as though fully set forth herein.
- 4. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the careless and negligent acts on the part of WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.

5. Plaintiff IDA TREVINO therefore has been forced to expend great sums of money in funeral, burial, and medical expenses as a result of the death of her husband, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in excess of \$50,000, together with the costs of this action, and demand trial by jury.

### COUNT XIII: WILLFUL AND WANTON (GEARY) WRONGFUL DEATH ACT

- At all times relevant hereto, Defendant WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, had a duty to use ordinary care and caution in the operation of the subject U-Haul so as not to injure other persons traveling on the highway.
- 2. At the aforesaid time and place, Defendant WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, violated such duty and acted with utter indifference and conscious disregard for the safety of Plaintiffs and the general motoring public in one or more of the following ways:
  - a. Acted with utter indifference and conscious disregard in his operation, management, maintenance, and/or control of the subject U-Haul;
  - b. Operated the subject U-Haul without keeping a safe and proper lookout;
  - c. Proceeded at a speed that was greater than reasonable and proper with regard to traffic conditions and the use of the highway, or which endangered the safety of persons or property;
  - d. Failed to exercise due care to avoid colliding with the RBX tractortrailer which Corey Hill was driving;
  - e. Failed to exercise due care to avoid colliding with the Great Dane tractor-trailer which GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was driving; and
  - f. Was otherwise willful and wanton.

- 3. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the aforesaid willful and wanton acts on the part of Defendant WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.
- 4. GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, has left as his survivors, his wife, Plaintiff IDA TREVINO and his children, Plaintiffs SARAH RENE TREVINO and ANGELA KRISTIN TREVINO, who have suffered personal and pecuniary loss as the result of the death of their husband and father, and have suffered from the loss of his love, affection, society, and companionship that they enjoyed prior to his death and have endured grief, sorrow, and mental suffering.
- 5. This action arises under the Illinois Wrongful Death Act, 740 ILCS 180/0.01 et seq.

### COUNT XIV: WILLFUL AND WANTON (GEARY) SURVIVAL ACT

- 1 3. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1-3 of Count XIII as paragraphs 1-3 of Count XIV as though fully set forth herein.
- 4. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the willful and wanton acts on the part of WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, was injured and suffered personal and pecuniary damages, including conscious pain and suffering prior to his death.
- 5. Had GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, survived, he would have been entitled to bring an action for such damages. Pursuant to 755 ILCS 5/27-6, the action therefore survives him and accrues to his Estate.

## COUNT XV: WILLFUL AND WANTON (GEARY) FAMILY EXPENSE ACT

- 1 3. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1-3 of Count XIII as paragraphs 1-3 of Count XV as though fully set forth herein.
- 4. As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the willful and wanton acts on the part of WILLIAM GEARY, deceased, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased, suffered from injuries which resulted in his death.
- Plaintiff IDA TREVINO therefore has been forced to expend great sums of money in funeral, burial, and medical expenses as a result of the death of her husband, GREGORIO TREVINO, JR., deceased.

Respectfully submitted,

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